



**A Publication of the
EXAMINING BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS, MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPISTS AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS**

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**THE WISCONSIN EXAMINING BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORKERS, MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPISTS AND PROFESSIONAL
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Tidbits by Anita Kropf

Some PC's and MFT's are under the impression that they can apply for a social work certification and not have a master's degree in social work since they already hold the PC and/or MFT certificate. Since the waiver period ended, on 5/31/95, it is not possible to get a social work certificate at any level unless you have a degree in social work or apply for a social worker training certificate.

If you are a supervisor of social workers in any facility, you may want to check to be sure that these social workers are certified. Some supervisors assume this is the case, trusting that the personnel department or human resource department who hired them, verified this and have a copy of their certificate in their personnel file. Don't assume this, since you are responsible for the social worker you are supervising and held accountable if any infractions occur by them. You can verify certification status via the Internet at the department's web site, <http://www.drl.state.wi.us>. Click on "Credential Holder Query".

Grandfathering Rules Pass Away

The various rules related to applications during the grandfathering period – SFC 3.02, 3.03, 3.04, 3.06, 3.08, 3.10, 11.03, 16.01 (3) 16.02 (4) and 18.02 - were removed from the Administrative Code on December 1, 1999. At the same time, a change was made by the Professional Counselor Section to SFC 16.01(1)(c) and SFC 16.01(2)(b) to clarify that the counseling theory course required for an academic program to be equivalent to a master's degree in professional counseling must consist of at least 3 semester hours or 4 quarter hours.

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Supervision of Pre-Certification Practice for ICSWs

Persons who expect to apply for certification as an ICSW must take careful note of the provisions of SFC 4.01(1)(b) 1 and 2. Supervision of pre-certification practice of social work may be exercised by an ICSW. Supervision of pre-certification practice of social work may be exercised by a psychologist or a psychiatrist, but ONLY if supervision by an ICSW is unobtainable ("or unreasonably restrictive of the delivery of social work services to a particular population, or unduly interferes with training social workers in providing services to a particular population"). An application may be denied if an applicant chooses a supervisor other than an ICSW and the section determines that supervision by an ICSW was obtainable. An applicant should seek approval from the Social Worker Section before arranging for supervision by a psychologist or psychiatrist. Explain the situation in writing and submit it to the section at the departmental address.

Material Available for Social Work Supervision

Instructional material on social work supervision is available through the American Association of State Social Work Boards (AASSWB). A *Clinical Supervision Curriculum Guide* was developed by Dr. Carlton Munson of the University of Maryland for the Virginia Board of Social Work. It is available in video (\$20), on CD-ROM (\$16), and as a two-volume text (\$35). For more information, contact Kathleen Hoffman at the AASSWB, (800) 225-6880, x 3006. (Dr. Munson has also published a work entitled *Clinical Social Work Supervision*.)

Legal Items

The following items are reported by the board's legal counsel:

1. Administrative warnings have been issued to credential-holders for using the title "social worker" prior to being certified.
2. Unprofessional conduct under section SFC 20.02 (18) of the administrative rules includes "failing to maintain adequate records relating to services provided a client in the course of a professional relationship". If adequate records are not prepared in a timely fashion, a social worker, professional counselor, or marriage and family therapist may be subject to discipline. In the event that records must be reconstructed after more than a normal delay in processing, it may be important, to avoid further problems, to indicate on the record that it is a reconstruction. For example, include a note that says "this record is reconstructed as of [date]".
3. A number of calls have been received regarding the proper professional response of a social worker, professional counselor, or marriage and family therapist when confronted by evidence that a client has been the victim of sexual contact with another therapist. This issue is specifically addressed, not in the rules and statutes of the profession, but in the criminal law. Section 940.22, Stats., says in relevant part,

940.22 Sexual exploitation by therapist; duty to report.

...

(3) REPORTS OF SEXUAL CONTACT.

(a) If a therapist has reasonable cause to suspect that a patient or client he or she has seen in the course of professional duties is a victim of sexual contact by another therapist or a person who holds himself or herself out to be a therapist in violation of sub.(2), **as soon thereafter as practicable the therapist shall ask the patient or client if he or she wants the therapist to make a report under this subsection** [emphasis added]. The therapist shall explain that the report need not identify the patient or client as the victim. If the patient or client wants the therapist to make the report, the patient or client shall provide the therapist with a written consent to the report and shall specify whether the patient's or client's identity will be included in the report...

The statute then goes on to detail how such a report is to be made, what information should be included, etc.

APSW's Practicing Under CSW Certification

Recently someone posed an interesting question: Can social workers with CSW certification who then obtain a masters degree in social work continue to practice while working toward ICSW certification with only the CSW certificate?

Certainly these individuals can use the title of social worker regardless of their certification level. But Chapter SFC 6.01 specifically prohibits CSW's from engaging in psychotherapeutic activities. Assuming that a masters degree social worker wishes to attain the ICSW level, he or she may very well be learning psychotherapeutic practices under appropriate supervision (see Chapter SFC 7).

Thus, masters degree social workers who also hold the CSW certification should apply for Advanced Practice certification.

Creation of MFT Training Certificate

The MFT section met on February 8th in the AM, and met as part of the full SWMFTPC Board during the PM of that same date. We are happy to report that after some years of frustrating efforts it finally appears that legislation will be passed creating the MFT Training Certificate and putting in place the possibility for applicants to take the AMFTRB exam as soon as they met the educational requirements, but before completion of the 2 year post degree clinical experience. This development is currently packaged as AB 642 and SB 321. It would certainly be helpful for you to contact your representatives and encourage them to support these bills as they appear before them in either the Assembly or Senate. Many of you may recall that these are changes we have been pursuing for over 3 years and at long last they are well within reach. In fact, hopefully by the publication of the next issue of this DIGEST we can announce that the changes are passed and operational. In addition to this development we expended efforts during this meeting to "clean up" and clarify the application forms for MFT certification. While these efforts will not benefit those of you already certified, we are hopeful that the

changes will result in future applicants finding the application materials more "user friendly". At our next meeting we will be engaged in discussions about the creation of an advisory committee to work with the Department of Regulation and Licensing in the creation of a bill that would create a practice act, thereby changing the MFT certificate to a license. The difference between certification and licensing has been explained in an earlier issue of the DIGEST. Hopefully, the outcome of efforts by this committee will result in practice act legislation that can be supported by all involved, including the Department of Regulation and Licensing. If nothing else, the creation of legislation that is satisfactory to a variety of groups impresses upon one the value of patience!

Meeting Dates

Social Workers Section

March 16,2000	June 15,2000	September 14,2000
April 11,2000	July 11,2000	October 24,2000
May 17,2000	August 9,2000	December 6,2000

Professional Counselors Section

May 11,2000 September 7,2000 November 30, 2000

Marriage & Family Therapists Section

May 16,2000 September 13,2000 December 5,2000

Joint Board

May 16,2000 September 13,2000 December 5, 2000

Department of Regulation and Licensing Expands Credential Verification Services

The Department of Regulation and Licensing has added a feature at the department's web site (<http://www.drl.state.wi.us>) which will allow employers and members of the public to verify the status of professional credentials held by nearly 280,000 individuals.

Once the department's web site is accessed, users may click on "Credential Holder Query" and they will gain access to the department's credential data base where they can verify whether an individual holds a current license in any of the professions regulated by the department.

"Giving employers and consumers the ability to directly access this information on the Internet makes it easier for the public to verify whether a person is entitled to practice a profession in Wisconsin," Secretary Marlene Cummings said. "It will also be an effective deterrent to efforts by any individuals to successfully misrepresent their credential status since anyone with a computer and internet access can quickly verify whether the credential is actually held by that individual," Cummings added.

Web site

Please periodically refer to the Department's Website <http://www.drl.state.wi.us/agencies/drl/> under "what's new" - social work for updates to

frequently asked questions regarding continuing education requirements for social workers.

Disciplines

CARY A. BACKENGER, CPC

APPLETON WI SUSPEND AT LEAST ONE YEAR
Engaged in sexual conduct with a client within 2 years of termination of professional services. May petition the board for termination of the suspension after one year. Effective 10/19/99. SFC 20.02(11). Case #LS9910191CPC

CARY ANN BACKENGER, APSW

APPLETON WI VOLUNTARY SURRENDER
Engaged in sexual conduct with a client within 2 years of termination of professional services. Effective 12/9/99. Sec. 457.26(2)(f), Stats. SFC 20.02(11) Case #LS9912091SOC

SANDRA MOESSNER HELPSMEET, CMFT

EAU CLAIRE WI SUSPENDED/LIMITED
Provided extensive psychotherapy services to a patient. Effective 12/8/99. Sec. 457.26(2)(f), Stats. SFC 20.02(1),(22) Case #LS9912074MFT

HOLLIE N. G. SARRAMIF, CMFT

STOUGHTON WI REVOKED
Did not meet the qualifications for certification as a marriage and family therapist in effect in 1993, and has never met qualifications for certification, and should not have been certified as a marriage and family therapist. Used fraud or deception in her application for a certificate. Sent a transcript to the board from an institute that does not exist, never attended this university, the transcript is a forgery, and she is not the person who obtained other degrees. At the time of completing the application, she knew that the former name, date of birth, and degrees she entered on the application were false. Effective 12/8/99. SFC 20.02(4) Case #LS9912077MFT

HEATHER REYE MORRIS, CSW

LA CROSSE WI REVOKED
Did not meet the qualifications for certification as a social worker in effect in January and February of 1995 and should not have been certified as a social worker. Used fraud or deception in her application for a certificate in stating that she had engaged in 400 hours of social work prior to 5/1/93 when she had not done so. Effective 12/9/99. Sec. 457.26(2)(f), Stats. SFC 20.02(4) Case #LS9912092SOC

BILLY L. YOUNG, SOCIAL WORKER

NEILLSVILLE WI REVOKED
Engaged in sexual contact with a client. Engaged in a dual relationship that may impair his objectivity or create a conflict of interest. Engaged in sexual intercourse with a child age 16 or older. Procured and gave away alcoholic beverages to an underage person not accompanied by her parent or guardian. Right to renew is revoked and he shall never reapply for any certification from this board. Effective 10/27/99. Secs. 125.07(1)(a)1., 457.26(2)(f). 948.09, Stats. SFC 20.02 (2),(11),(13),(22). Case #LS9910271SOC

Exam Dates

Professional Counselors

NCE

April 15,2000
July 15,2000
October 21, 2000

Marriage & Family Therapists

AMFTRB

May 12,2000
November 3,2000

Department of Regulation and Licensing
Examining Board of Social Workers,
Marriage and Family Therapists and
Professional Counselors
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

REGULATORY DIGEST

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
Paid
Madison, WI
Permit No. 1369

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Telephone Directory

Automated Phone System for Chiropractic,
Acupuncture, Music, Art & Dance Therapy,
Massage Therapy and Bodyworkers, Massage
Therapists, Marriage & Family Therapists,
Nursing, Optometry, Professional Counselors,
Psychology, & Social Workers: **(608) 266-0145**

Press 1, then 4 Application Requests for License &
Continuing Education

Press 2 Information on Status of Pending
Applications

Press 3 Information on Renewal, Verifi-
cations, Letters of Good Standing
& Name or Address Changes.

Press 4 Complaint Filing Information

Press 5 Application Questions

Press 6 Repeat Menu Choices

FAX: **(608) 261-7083**

Quick Keys

The following are voice mail "short cuts":

To request a license application for your profession,
just dial (608)266-0145, then enter the Quick Keys
number below for the profession you want:

General Information	1-3
Social Worker Bachelor's	1-3-1
Social Worker Training Certificate	1-3-2
Professional Counselor	1-7
Marriage & Family Therapist	1-8

Verifications

All requests for verification of license status must be in
writing. There **is** no charge for this service. Requests
should be sent to the Department address or may be
faxed to (608) 261-7083, Attention Verifications.

Endorsements

Requests for endorsements to other states must be in
writing. The cost is \$10. Please make check or money
order payable to the Department of Regulation and
Licensing.

Visit the Department's Web Site

<http://www.drl.state.wi.us/>

Send comments to dorl@drl.state.wi.us

Change of Name or Address?

Please photocopy the mailing label of this digest, make
changes in name or address, and return it to the
Department. Confirmation of changes are **not**
automatically provided.

~~WIS. STATS.~~ S. 440.11 ALLOWS FOR A **\$50**
PENALTY TO BE IMPOSED WHEN CHANGES
ARE NOT REPORTED WITHIN **30 DAYS**.

Wisconsin Statutes and Code

Copies of the Wisconsin Statutes and Administrative
Code for Social Workers, Marriage and Family
Therapists and Professional Counselors can be ordered
through the Board Office. Include your name, address,
county and a check payable to the Department of
Regulation and Licensing in the amount of \$5.28. The
most current publication date is December, 1999.

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